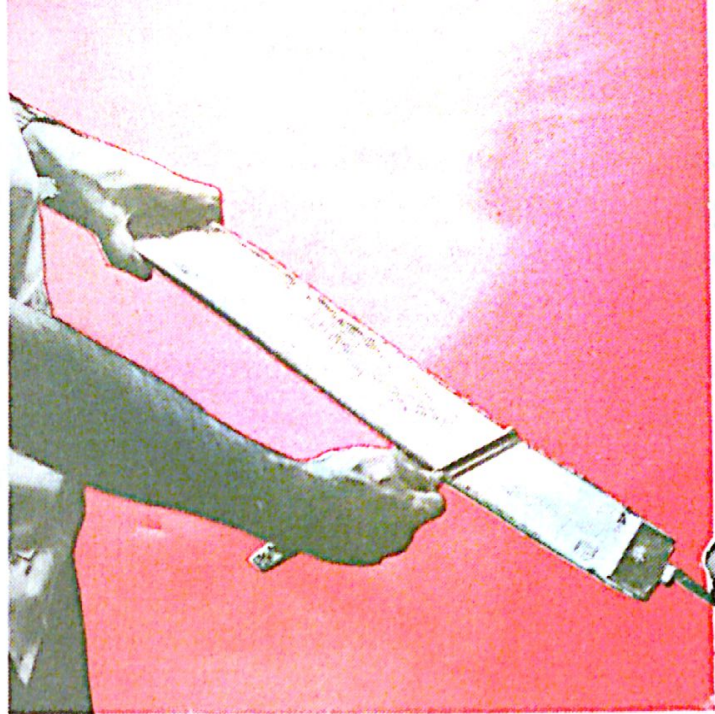


CHAPTER 6

HONING AND STROPPING



A barber who knows the right way to hone and strop razors has mastered an important barbering skill. To acquire the right technique in honing and stropping requires constant practice and long experience under the guidance of a qualified instructor.

HONING

Honing (hon'ing) is the process of sharpening a razor blade on a hone. The main object in honing is to obtain a perfect cutting edge on the razor. For the beginner a slow-cutting hone is preferable to a fast-cutting hone.

Prepare hone for honing. Honing will be more satisfactory if the razor and hone are kept at room temperature. Depending on which hone is used, it may be moistened with water or lather, or kept dry. When in use, the hone should be kept perfectly flat. Sufficient space should be provided to permit free arm movements in honing.

TECHNIQUE OF HONING

This is accomplished by honing the razor with smooth, even strokes of equal number and pressure on both sides of the blade. The angle at which the blade is stroked must be the same for both sides of the blade. An old, useless razor may be used for practicing the various movements.

How to hold the razor. Grasp the razor handle comfortably in the right hand as follows:

1. Rest index finger on top of the side part of the shank.
2. Rest ball of thumb at the joint.
3. Place second finger back of the razor near the edge of the shank.
4. Fold remaining fingers around the handle to permit easy turning of the razor.

How to hold the hone. Lay the hone flat in your left hand. Hold the hone firm with the index finger and the little finger.

CAUTION. Make sure that the fingertips do not project above the hone. If you do, you will cut them.

Turning the razor. Place razor on hone with razor edge facing left. Turn razor from one side to the other. The rolling movement across back of razor is produced with the fingers, rather than the wrist. Practice the turning action until it is mastered.

First stroke in honing. The razor blade must be stroked diagonally across the hone, drawing the blade towards the cutting edge and heel of the razor.

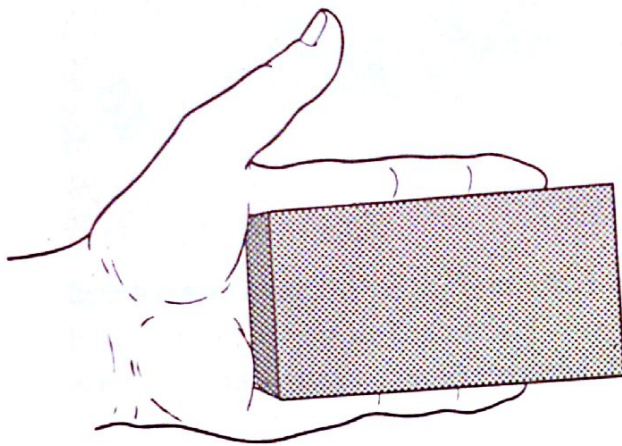


Fig. 1—Proper way to hold hone

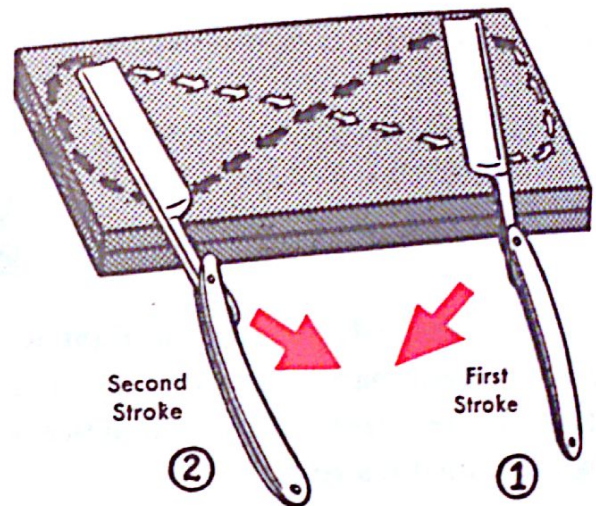


Fig. 2—Proper honing of a razor

Second stroke in honing. After the completion of the first stroke, the razor is turned on its back with the fingers in the same manner as you would roll a pencil, without turning the wrist. As the razor is rolled over on its back, slide it upwards from left-bottom of hone to left-top of hone.

Completing the second stroke. Draw razor from left-top corner of hone to right-bottom corner of hone so that the edge faces to the right and the heel leads. Keep equal pressure on the razor at all times. As the razor is rolled over on its back, slide it upwards from right-bottom to right-top.

Repeat strokes. In going from one step to the other, try to maintain four different movements, rather than a sweeping movement. The number of strokes required in honing depends on the condition of the razor's edge.

Testing razor on moistened thumb nail. Depending on the hardness of the hone and the number of strokes taken, the razor edge may be either blunt,



Fig. 3—Testing razor on moistened thumb nail

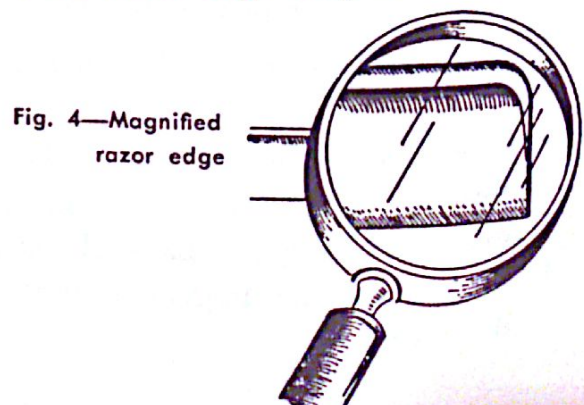


Fig. 4—Magnified razor edge

keen, coarse or rough. Different sensations are felt when the razor is passed lightly across the thumb nail which has been moistened with water or lather. (See Fig. 3.)

Magnified razor edge. While honing, the abrasive material makes small cuts in the sides of the razor blade. The small cuts resemble the teeth of a saw, and they point in the same direction as the stroke, as shown in Fig. 4.

To test the razor edge, place it on the nail of the thumb and slowly draw it from the heel to the point of the razor.

1. A perfect or keen edge has fine teeth and tends to dig into the nail with a smooth steady grip.
2. A blunt or dull razor edge passes over the nail smoothly, without any cutting power.
3. A coarse razor edge digs into the nail with a jerky feeling.
4. A rough or overhoned edge has large teeth which stick to the nail and produces a harsh, grating sound.
5. A nick in the razor. A feeling of a slight gap or unevenness in the draw will indicate a nick in the razor.

Correcting an overhoned razor. To eliminate an overhoned edge, draw the razor backward in a diagonal line across the hone, using the same movement and pressure as in regular honing. One or two strokes each way will usually remove the rough edge. This is called **back honing**. The razor is then honed again, being careful to prevent overhoning.

Seldom does it become necessary to put an entirely new edge on the razor. If after repeated honings or abuse, the razor edge remains blunt, it may require a new edge. For this purpose, the razor should be forwarded to an expert sharpener of cutlery.

CARE OF THE HONE

The barber should know how to use and take care of the particular type of hone he has selected. The manufacturer's instructions offer a reliable guide for keeping the hone in a serviceable condition.

After using any kind of hone, always wipe the surface clean and cover it. Make sure that all adhering steel particles resulting from the honing are completely removed. Whenever a dry hone has been used, rub its surface with water and pumice (pum'is) stone, wipe clean and keep covered.

A new hone may require a preliminary treatment to put it into good working shape. If a new hone is very rough, rub its surface with water and pumice stone. No preliminary treatment is required for the water hone, as it is ready for immediate use.

Before using, make sure that the surface of the hone is smooth and clean, as this will greatly diminish normal time required to put an edge on the razor. Use the hone either moist or dry, as directed by the manufacturer.

STROPPING

Stropping a razor is a fine art developed by repeated practice. The aim in stropping is to smooth and shape the razor's edge into a keen cutting implement. After being honed, the razor seldom needs any stropping on the canvas. Instead, the honed razor is stropped directly over the surface of the leather strop. The time to use the canvas strop is when the razor develops a smooth edge from continued use. The effect of the canvas strop is similar to mild honing.

THE TECHNIQUE OF STROPPING

Hold the end of the strop firmly in the left hand so it cannot sag. Hold it close to the side, and as high as it is comfortable. Take razor in right hand, well up in the hand. Hold the razor so that the first finger is on the shank, the second finger is on the handle and the thumb rests slightly on both parts. At the same time, the first finger of the right hand rests at the edge of the strop.

Turning the razor. Place the razor on the strop, turning it with fingers and thumb. Practice turning action until it is mastered.

In stropping the razor, use a long diagonal stroke with even pressure from the heel to the point.

Note. The direction of the razor in stropping is the reverse of that used in honing.

First stroke. Start stroke at top edge of strop closest to barber chair, as in Fig. 1. Draw the razor perfectly flat, with back leading, straight over the surface of the strop.

Second stroke. When the first stroke is completed, turn the razor on the back of the blade by rolling it in the fingers without turning the hand, as in Fig. 2. Now draw the razor away from you, towards the barber chair, thus completing the second stroke in honing.



Fig. 1

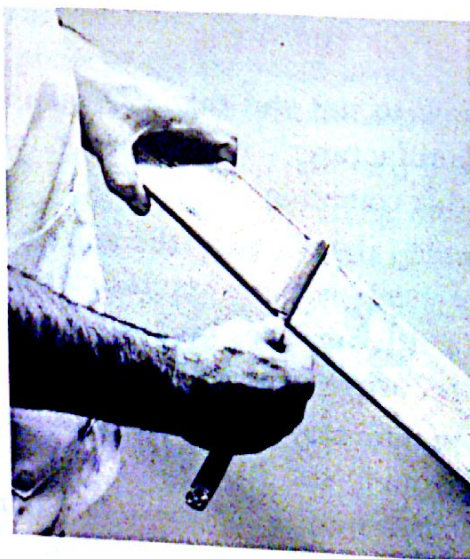


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Final testing of razor on moistened tip of thumb, prior to shaving. Touch the razor edge lightly, as in Fig. 3, and note the reaction. A dull edge produces no drawing feeling. A razor that has the proper cutting edge tends to stick to the thumb and will not slide along it.

If the razor edge produces a rough, disagreeable sound upon testing, it indicates that the cutting edge is still coarse. To correct this condition, additional finishing on the leather strop is necessary.

Should the razor edge yield a smooth feeling upon testing, finish it again on the canvas strop, followed by a few more strokes on the leather strop.

CARE OF STROPS

A leather strop becomes better or worse according to the care it is given. Do not fold a strop, but keep it suspended or attached to a swivel, or laid flat. When a leather strop appears rough, it needs a hand finish to make it smooth. Various types of strop dressings are available for the purpose of cleaning and conditioning the leather side of the strop. A canvas strop needs a daily hand finish to keep it in good condition. (For information on how to break in strops see chapter on Implements.)

A strop is sanitary if it is kept clean. Accumulated grit is removed from a canvas strop by rubbing it with lather. To remove imbedded dirt, the leather strop is softened with lather and then scraped with the back side of the shear blade or similar implement.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



HONING AND STROPPING

1. **What is the proper way to learn how to hone and strop razors in a barber shop?**

By continued study, practice and experience.

2. **What is accomplished by proper honing?**

The razor acquires a perfect cutting edge.

3. **Describe the manner of stroking a razor on a hone.**

Hold the razor at an angle and use smooth, even strokes and pressure on both sides of the blade.

4. **Describe the first stroke used in honing.**

Stroke the razor blade to the left diagonally across the hone, from heel to point towards the edge.

5. **How is the second stroke performed in honing?**

Turn the razor over on its back and stroke the blade to the right diagonally across the hone, from the heel to the point towards the edge.

6. **What happens to the razor edge as it is honed?**

The abrasive material on the hone makes small cuts in the sides of the razor's edge.

7. **Why should the honed razor be tested on a moist thumb nail?**

To determine if the razor edge is either blunt, keen, coarse or rough.

8. **What is the sign of a keen edge or a properly honed razor?**

It tends to dig into the nail with a smooth steady grip.

9. What is the sign of a blunt razor edge?

It passes over the nail smoothly without any cutting power.

10. What is the sign of a coarse razor edge?

It tends to dig into the nail with a jerky feeling.

11. What is the sign of a rough or overhoned razor edge?

It has large teeth which stick to the nail and give a harsh, grating sound.

12. What is the proper care of hones?

Follow manufacturer's directions. After using, wipe clean and keep covered.

13. What is the purpose of stropping the razor after honing?

To smooth the razor's edge.

14. How does stropping differ from honing?

The stroking of the razor blade in stropping is just the reverse of honing.

15. Which strop is used on a freshly honed razor?

The leather strop.

16. What is the proper way to hold the strop?

Grasp the end of the strop with the left hand and hold it firmly and tightly.

17. How should the razor be held for stropping?

Hold the razor in the right hand with the fingers wrapped around the handle and shank at the pivot.

18. Where should the first stroke be started?

Start at the top edge of the strop near the barber chair.

19. Describe the movements used in stropping.

1. Place the razor flat against the strop with the back towards the barber.

2. Draw the razor towards the barber.

3. Turn the razor over on its back with the fingers.

4. Draw the razor away from the barber.

5. Repeat these movements until razor is properly stropped.

20. Which fingers are used in rolling and turning the razor in the hand?

The thumb and next two fingers of the right hand.

21. How much pressure should be applied in stropping?

Use normal pressure at the point and heel for both sides of the razor.

22. How is the razor edge tested after stropping?

Touch the razor edge lightly over the cushion part of the thumb.

23. What is the sign of a smooth, sharp razor edge?

It produces a keen, drawing sensation, and the razor does not slide over the thumb.

24. What is the sign of a dull razor edge?

It produces no drawing sensation, sliding freely over the thumb.

25. How can the canvas strop be kept clean and smooth?

Apply lather or soap to the strop, then wipe it clean to remove accumulated grit.

26. What is the purpose of stropping the razor before shaving?

To smooth and shape the edge of the razor into a keen cutting edge.

27. In what position should the strops be kept?

Either suspended or attached to a swivel, or laid flat.

28. What is used to clean a dirty leather strop?

Apply a good quality strop dressing.

CHAPTER 7

SHAVING



Shaving is one of the basic services rendered in the barber shop. It deserves greater attention and skill than it has received in the past. With the introduction of the safety razor and now the electric razor, the income from shaving gradually declined in the barber shop. Instead of making a vigorous effort to offset this trend, the barber devoted less of his time to shaving.

Face shaving is necessary for hygienic, business and social reasons. To feel clean and look their best, nearly all men require daily shaving. Since there is a universal need for face shaving, every effort should be made to attract men to the barber shop for this service.

Barbers are now beginning to realize that they are losing a considerable amount of business that should rightfully be theirs. More and more barbers are now featuring shaving as a means of holding on to their patrons. Men who make a regular habit of being shaved in the barber shop are likely prospects for other services such as haircuts, facials and scalp treatments. The barber's prestige and earning power will be vastly increased if he is capable of giving the best shaves possible to his patrons.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SHAVING

The object of shaving is to remove the visible part of the hair extending over the surface of the skin of the face and neck in such a manner as not to cause irritation to the skin. For this purpose, a straight razor and lather are commonly used for shaving a man's beard.

Although there are certain general principles of shaving which apply to all men, there are nevertheless particular exceptions. Account should be taken of the texture of the hair (coarse, medium or fine), the grain of the beard and the sensitivity of the skin to the razor edge, shaving cream, hot towels and

astringent lotion. Hot towels should not be used when the skin is chapped or blistered from heat or cold. A person having any infection of the beard must not be shaved by a barber, as this may be the means of spreading the infection.

FOUR STANDARD SHAVING POSITIONS AND STROKES

To obtain the best cutting stroke, the razor must glide over the surface at an angle with the grain of the hair, and be drawn in a forward sawing movement with the point of the razor in the lead.

To shave the face and neck with the greatest of ease and efficiency, the barber employs the following standard positions and strokes:

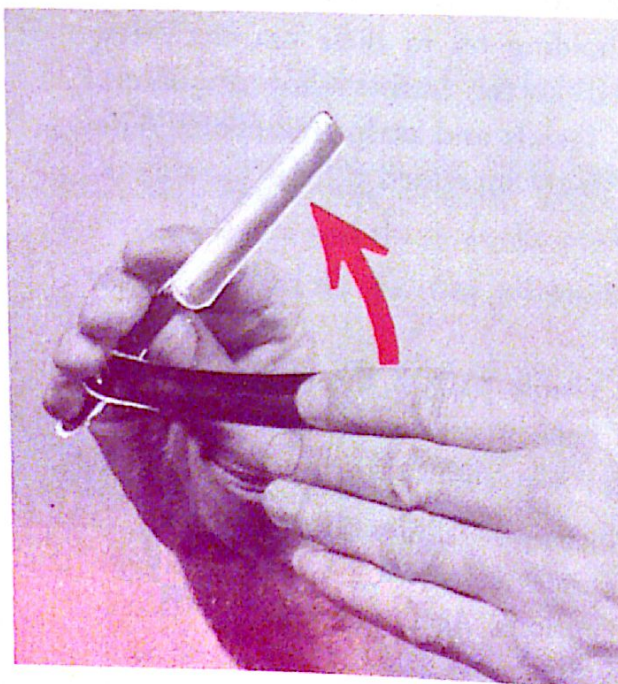
1. Free hand position and stroke.
2. Back hand position and stroke.
3. Reverse free hand position and stroke.
4. Reverse back hand position and stroke.

Under each of the standard shaving positions and strokes, consideration should be given to:

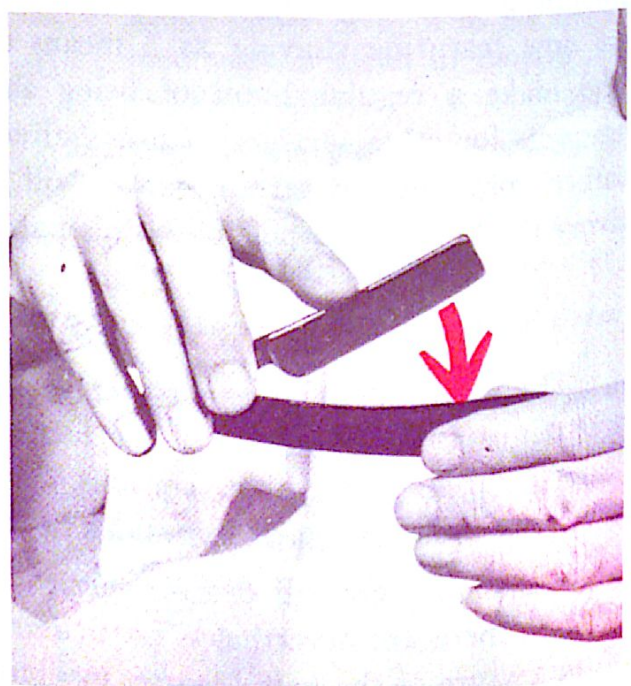
1. When to use the shaving stroke.
2. How to hold the razor.
 - a) Position of right hand with razor.
 - b) Position of left hand.
3. How to stroke the razor.

Review the proper method of honing and stropping the razor before learning each shaving stroke.

CAUTION. When closing the razor, be careful that the cutting edge does not strike the handle.



Opening razor.



Closing razor.

Exercise No. 1

FREE HAND POSITION AND STROKE

In the first lesson, the barber student learns the correct way to perform the free hand position and stroke. To master this important shaving skill requires regular practice.

1. When to use the free hand stroke. The free hand position and stroke is used in six of the fourteen shaving areas. See Numbers 1, 3, 4, 8, 11, 12 on the accompanying illustration shown in red.

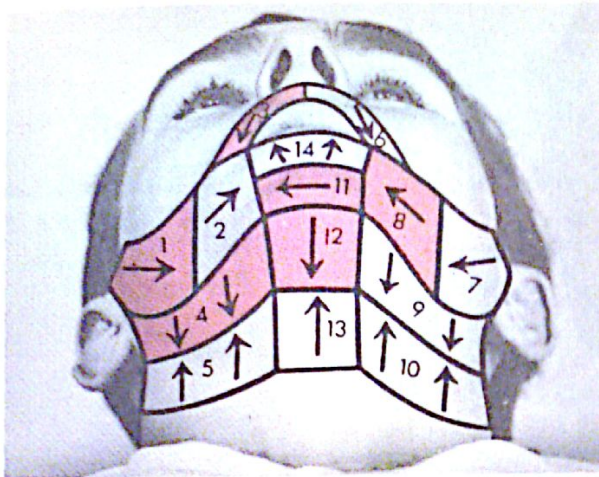
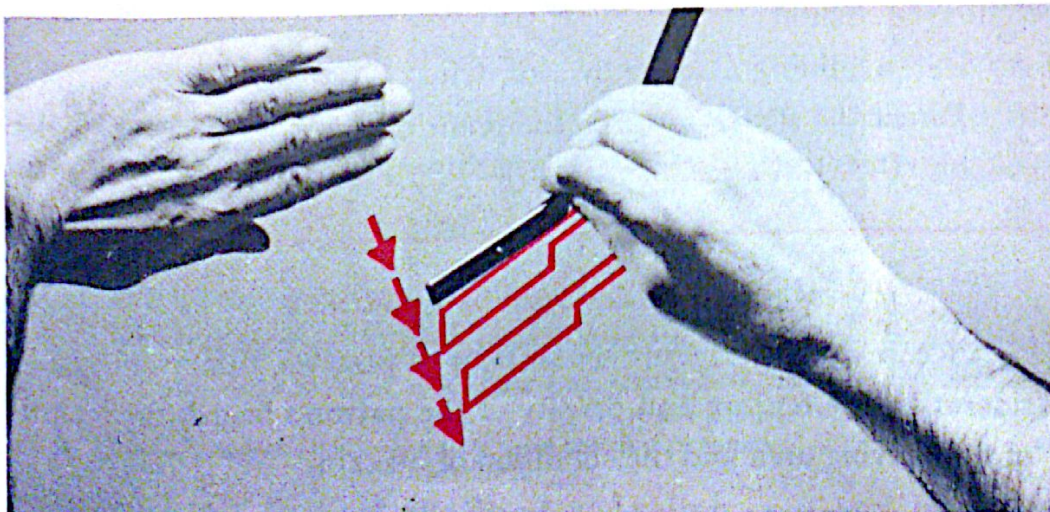


Diagram of shaving areas.

- 1. Free hand.
- 2. Back hand.
- 3. Free hand.
- 4. Free hand.
- 5. Reverse free hand.
- 6. Back hand.
- 7. Back hand.
- 8. Free hand.
- 9. Back hand.
- 10. Reverse free hand.
- 11. Free hand.
- 12. Free hand.
- 13. Reverse free hand.
- 14. Reverse free hand.

2. How to hold the razor. The position of the right hand is as follows:

- a) Take the razor in right hand.
- b) Hold handle of razor between third and fourth fingers, the small fingertip resting on the tang of the razor. Place tip of thumb on reverse side of the shank close to blade. Rest tips of fingers on the back of the shank.



Proper way to hold razor for free hand stroke.

- c) Raise elbow of the right arm nearly level with the shoulder. This is the position used in the arm movement. (*Note: Some barbers prefer to use the wrist movement, in which case the elbow is not raised as high.*)

The position of the left hand is as follows:

- a) Keep the fingers of the left hand dry in order to prevent them from slipping on the wet face.
- b) Keep left hand back of razor in order to stretch skin tightly under razor.



Free hand stroke.
Shaving area No. 1.

3. **How to stroke the razor.** The free hand stroke is performed in the following manner:
 - a) Use a gliding stroke towards you.
 - b) Direct the stroke towards the point of the razor in a forward sawing movement.

LENGTH OF SHAVING STROKES

Keep the shaving strokes as long as possible, taking into consideration the texture and density of the patron's beard, the length of the shaving area and the condition of his skin.

Exercise No. 2

BACK HAND POSITION AND STROKE

After the barber student has developed skill in performing the free hand position and stroke, he is now ready to proceed with the back hand position and stroke.

1. When to use the back hand stroke. The back hand stroke is used in four of the fourteen basic shaving areas. See Numbers 2, 6, 7, 9 on the accompanying illustration shown in red.

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Free hand. | 8. Free hand. |
| • 2. Back hand. | • 9. Back hand. |
| 3. Free hand. | 10. Reverse free hand. |
| 4. Free hand. | 11. Free hand. |
| 5. Reverse free hand. | 12. Free hand. |
| • 6. Back hand. | 13. Reverse free hand. |
| • 7. Back hand. | 14. Reverse free hand. |



Diagram of shaving areas.

2. How to hold the razor. The position of the right hand is as follows:
 - a) Hold the shank of the razor firmly with the handle slightly bent back.
 - b) Rest the shank of the razor on the first two joints of the first three fingers. Hold thumb on the underside of the shank. Rest end of tang on inside of first joint of third finger as in Fig. 1. Little finger remains idle. For two other ways to hold razor, see Figs. 2 and 3.

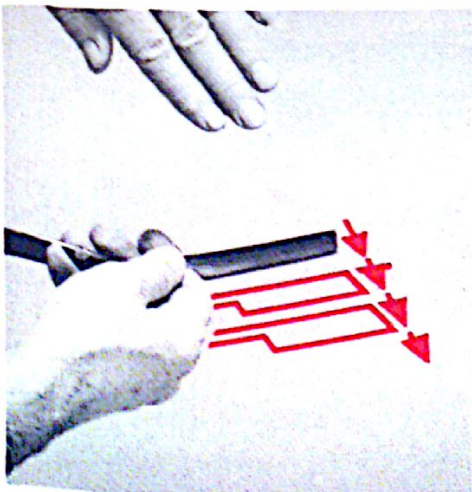


Fig. 1. First 2 joints of the first 3 fingers.

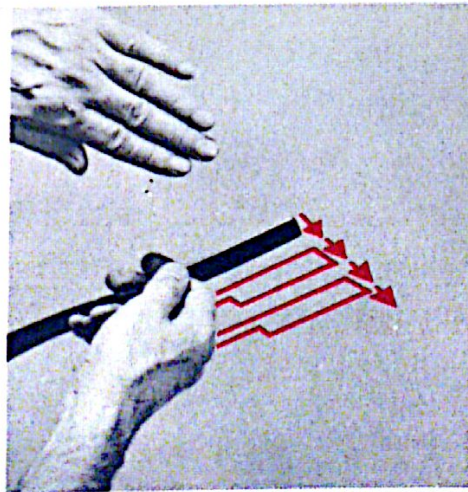


Fig. 2. First 2 joints of the first 2 fingers.

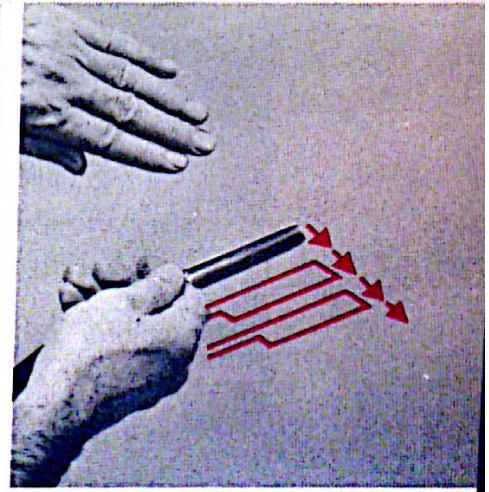


Fig. 3. Fingers wrapped around handle.

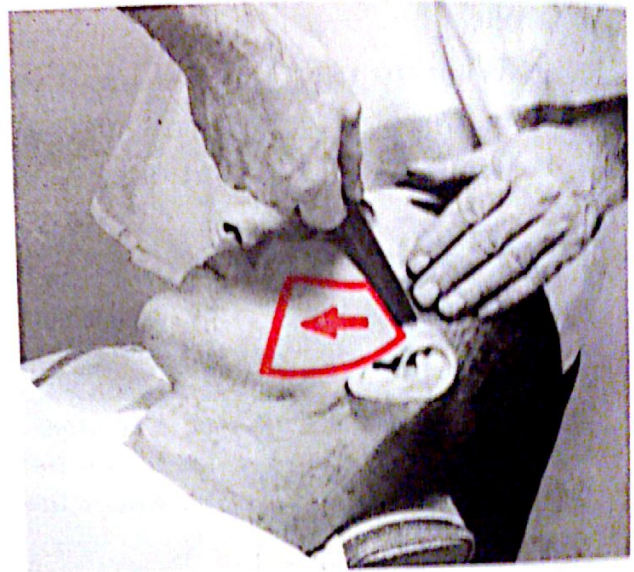
- c) Turn the back of the hand away from you and bend the wrist slightly downward. Then raise the elbow so that you can move the arm freely. This is the position used for the back hand stroke with the arm movement. (*Note: Some barbers prefer to use the wrist movement, in which case the arm is not held as high as for the arm movement.*)

The position of the left hand is as follows:

- a) Keep the fingers of the left hand dry in order to prevent them from slipping.
- b) Hold hand as if stretching the skin tightly under razor.



Back hand stroke.
Shaving area No. 2.



Back hand stroke.
Shaving area No. 7.

3. **How to stroke the razor.** The back hand stroke is performed in the following manner:
 - a) Use a gliding stroke away from you.
 - b) Direct stroke towards the point of the razor in a forward sawing movement.

THE PALM STROKE

Those barbers who find it awkward or uncomfortable to use the conventional stroke for area No. 7, may find the optional, Palm Stroke, more suitable.

Procedure

1. Hold razor in a straight handle position, with palm facing downward.
2. Direct stroke toward the point of the razor in a downward sawing movement away from the barber.



Palm stroke

REVERSE FREE HAND POSITION AND STROKE

The reverse free hand stroke and the free hand stroke are similar in some respects, the main difference being that the movement is directed upwards in the reverse free hand stroke, while the palm of the hand faces the barber.

1. When to use the reverse free hand stroke. The reverse free hand stroke is used in four of the fourteen basic shaving areas. See Numbers 5, 10, 13, 14 on the accompanying illustration shown in red.

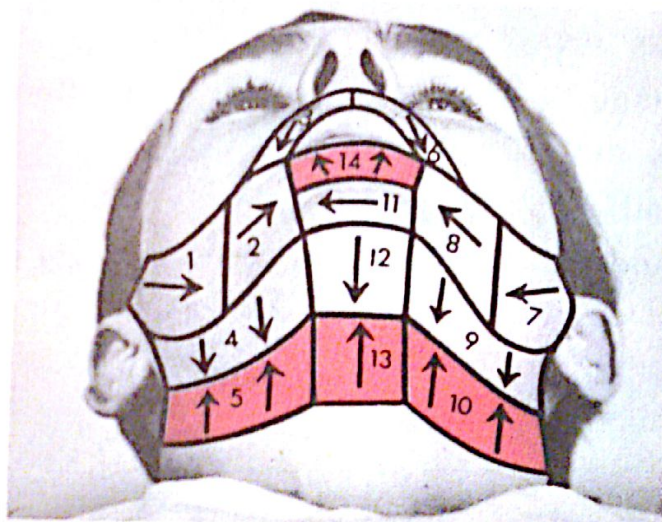


Diagram of shaving areas.

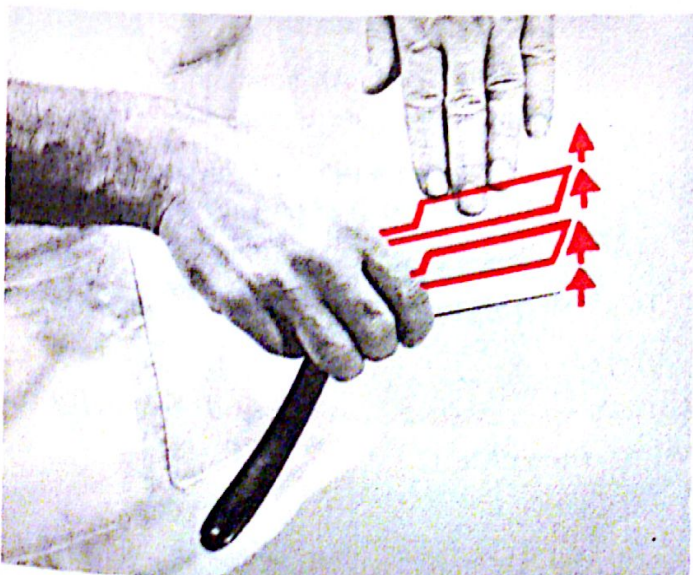
1. Free hand.
2. Back hand.
3. Free hand.
4. Free hand.
- 5. Reverse free hand.
6. Back hand.
7. Back hand.
8. Free hand.
9. Back hand.
- 10. Reverse free hand.
11. Free hand.
12. Free hand.
- 13. Reverse free hand.
- 14. Reverse free hand.

2. How to hold the razor. The position of the right hand is as follows:

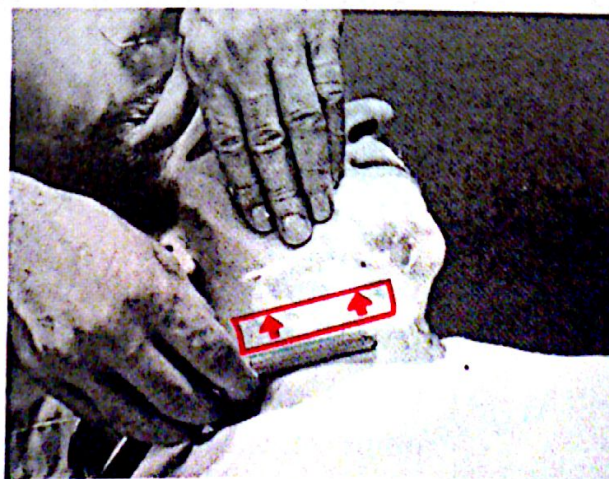
- a) Hold the razor firmly as in a free hand position, turn hand slightly towards you so that the razor edge is turned upward.

The position of the left hand is as follows:

- a) Keep hand dry and use it to pull the skin tightly under razor.



Reverse free hand stroke.



Reverse free hand stroke.
Shaving area No. 5.

3. How to stroke the razor. The reverse free hand stroke is performed in the following manner:

- a) Use upward semi-arc stroke towards you.
- b) The movement is from the elbow to the hand with a slight twist of the wrist.

Exercise No. 4

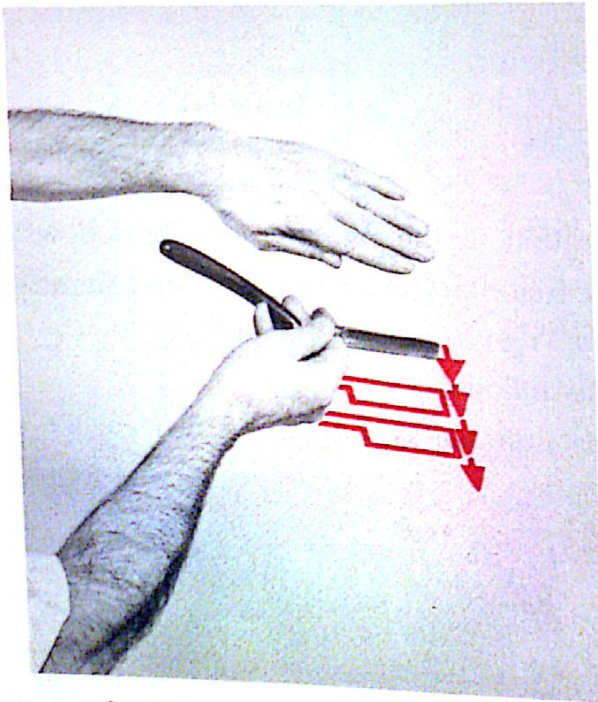
REVERSE BACK HAND POSITION AND STROKE

The reverse back hand position and stroke, although not frequently used, must be practiced diligently in order to be mastered.

1. **When to use the reverse back hand stroke.** The reverse back hand stroke is used for making the left sideburn outline and for shaving the left side behind the ear when the patron is sitting in an upright position.
2. **How to hold the razor.** The position of the right hand is as follows:
 - a) Hold the razor firmly as in the back hand position.
 - b) Turn the palm of the hand to the right so that it faces upward.
 - c) Drop the elbow close to the side.

The position of the left hand is as follows:

- a) Raise the left arm and hand in order to draw the skin tightly under the razor.



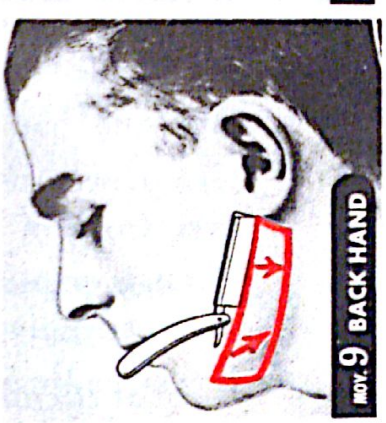
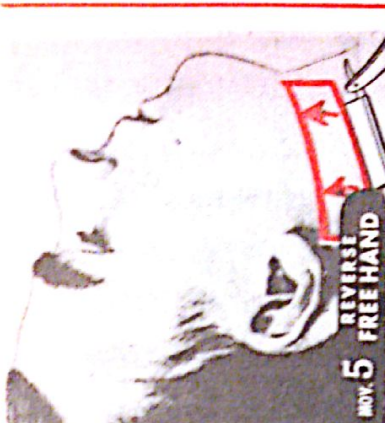
Reverse back hand stroke.
Shaving left side of neck below ear.

*Note the position of the razor.
The razor is stroked with the point
of the razor in the lead.*

3. **How to stroke the razor.** The reverse back hand stroke is performed in the following manner:
 - a) Use a gliding stroke and direct the stroke downward towards the point of the razor in a sawing movement.

STANDARD SHAVING CHART

Review the fourteen shaving areas and the correct way to handle the razor.



Exercise No. 6

HOW TO PREPARE A PATRON FOR SHAVING

As the patron enters the shop, you are to arise and stand at attention on the right side of the barber chair, facing the prospective patron with an attitude of willingness to serve.

Smile as you greet the patron by name. If the patron is known casually, refer to him as "Mister" with his last name. Only when well acquainted should a patron be called by his first name.

1. Seat the patron comfortably in barber chair.
2. Grasp neck-pieces of chair cloth and bring it over front of patron, as in Fig. 1.
3. Change paper cover on headrest and adjust the headrest to the proper height.
4. Lower, adjust and lock barber chair to the proper height and level.
5. Wash hands with soap and warm water, and dry them thoroughly, as in Fig. 2.
6. Unfold a clean towel, and lay it diagonally across the patron's chest.
7. Tuck in the left corner of the towel along the right side of the patron's neck, the edge tucked inside the neck-band with a sliding movement of the forefinger of the left hand, as in Fig. 3. The lower end of the towel is crossed over to the other side of the patron's neck and tucked under the neck-band, with a sliding movement of the forefinger of the right hand, as in Fig. 4.



Fig. 1.

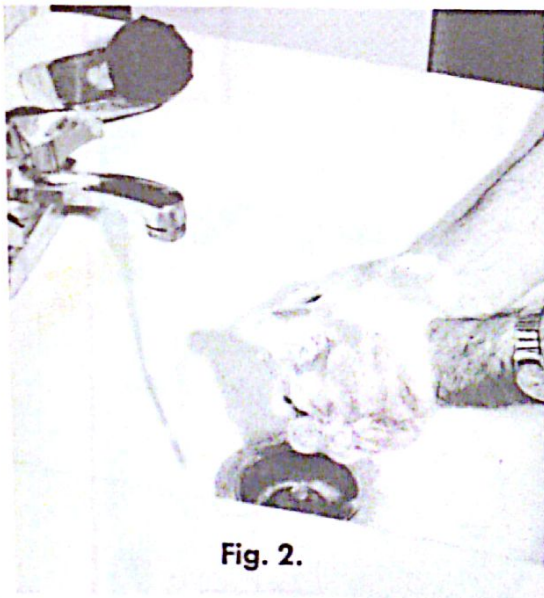


Fig. 2.

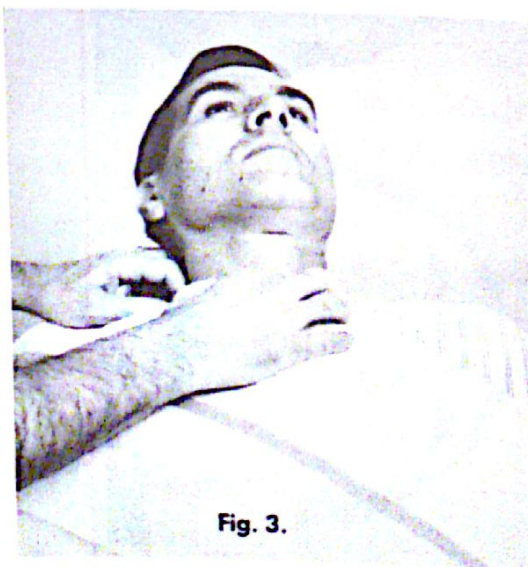


Fig. 3.

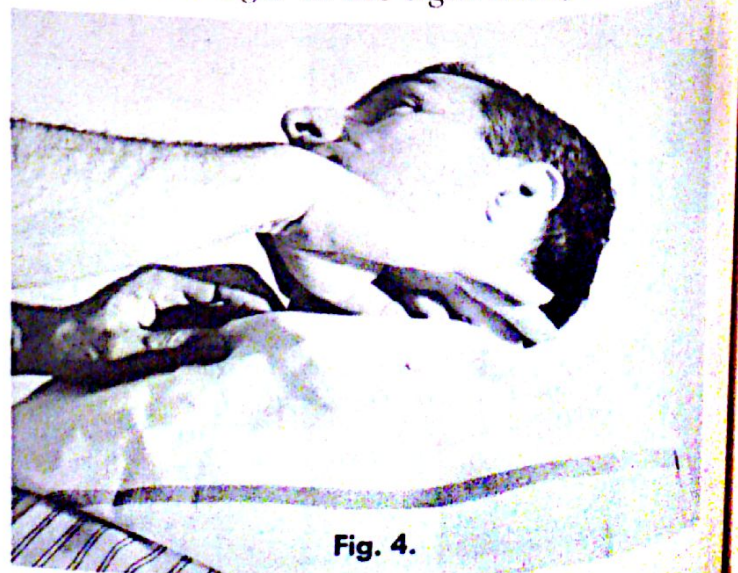


Fig. 4.

Exercise No. 7

HOW TO PREPARE THE FACE FOR SHAVING

Lathering and steaming the face are very important steps before shaving the face, for the following reasons:

Lathering the face serves the following purposes:

1. Cleans the face by dislodging dirt and foreign matter.
2. Softens the hair and fills in spaces.
3. Affords a smooth, flat surface for the razor to glide over.

Steaming the face is helpful for the following reasons:

1. Softens the cuticle or outer layer of the hair.
2. Provides lubrication by stimulating the action of the oil glands.
3. Soothes and relaxes the patron.

CAUTION. Do not use steam towel on the face if the skin is tender, sensitive, irritated, chapped or blistered.

The face is prepared for shaving as follows:

1. Prepare lather and spread it evenly over bearded parts of face and neck. To prepare shaving lather, use any of the following:
 - a) Electric latherizer. (Fig. 1.)
 - b) Atomizer latherizer.
 - c) Shaving soap or powder.

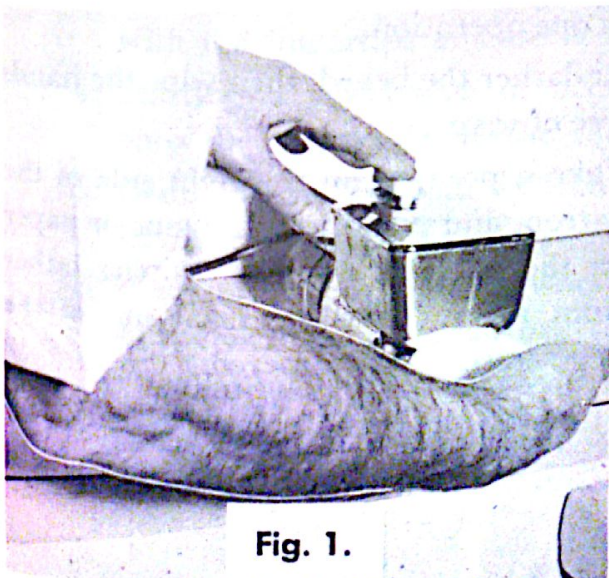


Fig. 1. Obtaining lather from an electric latherizer.



Fig. 2. Rubbing lather in a rotary movement.

2. Rub lather briskly into bearded area, using rotary movements with the cushion tips of the right hand. Rub lather on right side of face. (Fig. 2.) Then gently turn the head with the left hand by gently grasping the top of the head or the back of the head near the crown. Rub lather on the other side of face. Rubbing time from one to two minutes, depending upon the texture and density of the beard.

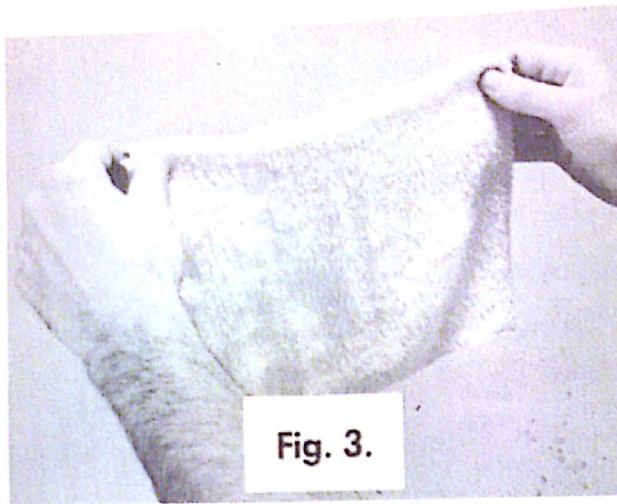


Fig. 3.

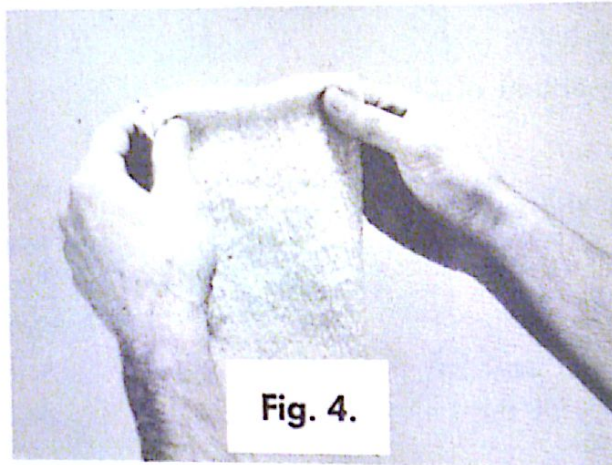


Fig. 4.

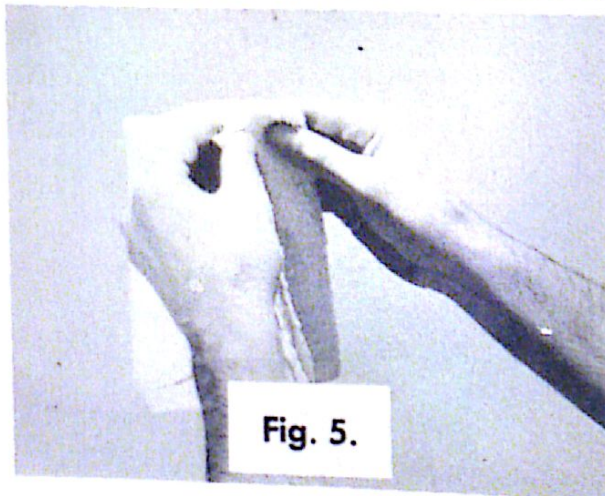


Fig. 5.

3. Take a clean towel, fold it once lengthwise. (Fig. 3.) Then fold it again the short way by bringing together both ends of the towel. (Fig. 4.)
4. Place folded towel (Fig. 5) under stream of hot water, allowing it to become thoroughly saturated and heated. (Fig. 6.)
5. Wring out towel until fairly dry.
6. Bring the steam towel behind the barber chair. Unfold it and hold each end. Place center of towel over patron's mouth, under chin and lower part of neck. (Fig. 7.) Carefully wrap towel around face, leaving the nose exposed. Finally, fold the ends over each other on the forehead, covering the eyes. (Fig. 8.)
7. While the steam towel is on the patron's face, strop the razor and immerse it into sanitizing solution. Then wipe the razor dry on a clean paper towel, and place it in a dry sanitizer until ready for use.
8. In removing steam towel, wipe lather off in one operation.
9. Re-lather the beard, then wipe the hands free of soap.
10. Take a position on the right side of the patron, and place a clean tissue or paper on the patron's chest for wiping lather from razor. Take the razor out of the dry sanitizer and proceed.

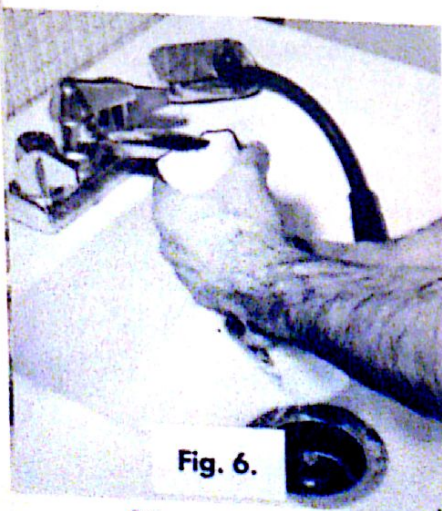


Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

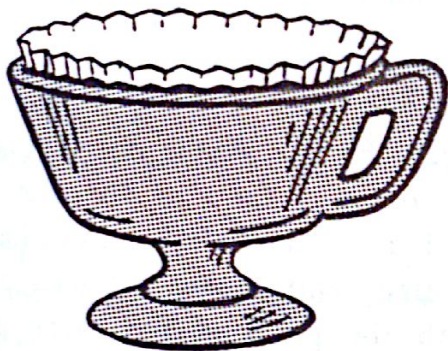
Exercise No. 8

HOW TO USE SHAVING MUG AND BRUSH

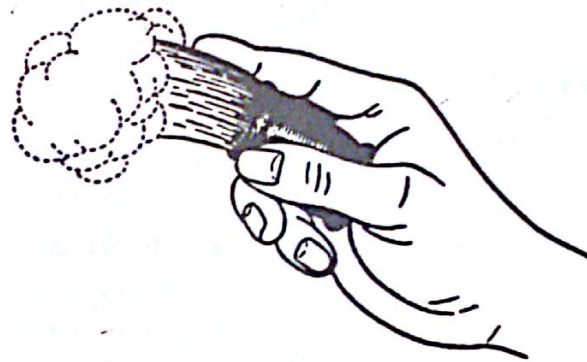
In the absence or breakdown of a mechanical latherizer, extra supplies are needed for producing shaving lather. For this purpose, the barber shop should have on hand shaving mugs, disposable paper linings, shaving brushes and shaving soap or powder in sufficient quantity to meet its needs.

PREPARING LATHER WITH SHAVING POWDER

1. Rinse the brush and mug thoroughly in hot water, insert paper lining, and retain a little water at bottom of mug.
2. Sprinkle shaving powder on brush and mix in mug to form lather of a creamy consistency.



Lather mug with paper lining.



Proper way to hold shaving brush.

3. To apply lather to face, grasp handle of brush in palm of right hand, with the fingertips at base of bristles.
4. Starting at right side of neck just below jaw bone, rub lather well onto the right side of the face, using rotary movements with brush.
5. Gently turn the head so that the left side is exposed. Repeat on the left side of face.
6. Place brush in mug and work lather into bearded area, using cushions of the right hand fingertips.
7. Continue with Steps 3 to 10 as outlined in Exercise No. 7.

PREPARING LATHER WITH CAKE SOAP

Pick up the shaving cup, which contains cake soap and brush, with the left hand, holding the thumb on the brush so that it will not overbalance and fall. Rinse the brush and mug thoroughly with warm water, leaving some water in the mug. Mix up a lather with the brush until it forms a creamy consistency. Avoid making noise caused by rattling the handle of the brush on the sides of the mug. Apply lather to the face as explained in Steps 3 to 7.

Wash out mug after each use on a patron.

CAUTION. Some states prohibit the use of shaving brushes. If permissible, paper lining and soap is disposed of, or the soap is rinsed out of mug and the brush is sanitized. This is done after each shave.

Exercise No. 9

POSITIONS AND STROKES IN SHAVING

Before attempting to shave a patron, practice several shaves on fellow student with dull practice razor.

The barber is now ready to begin shaving.

Proper coordination of both hands makes for better and safer shaving. While the right hand holds and strokes the razor, the fingers of the left hand assist in stretching the skin tightly around the part being shaved. A tight skin has the advantage that it allows the beard to be cut more easily. To prevent slipping, the fingers of the left hand must be kept dry at all times.

SHAVING AREA No. 1

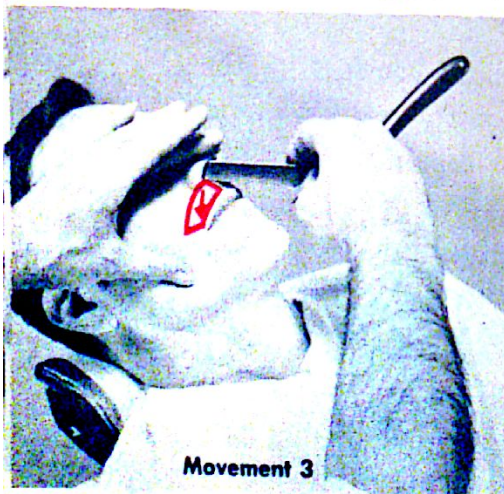
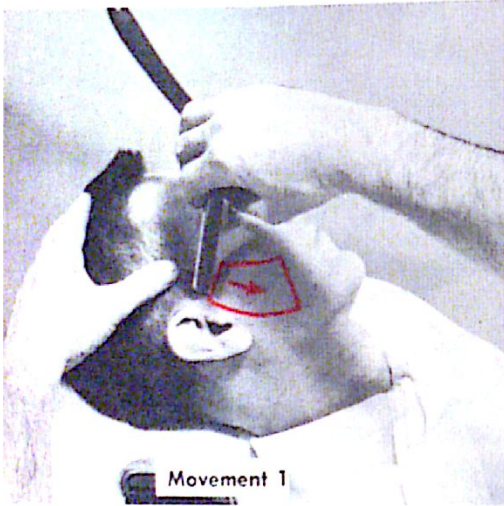
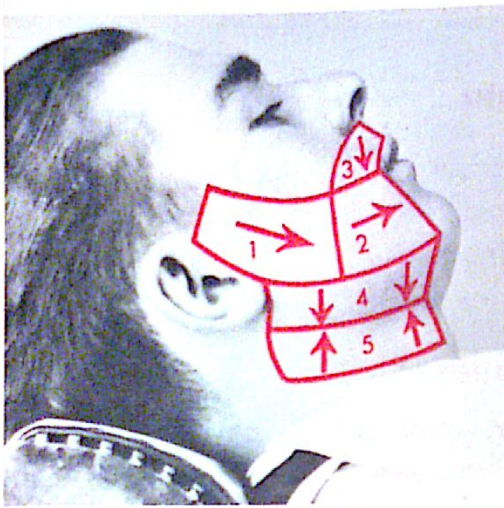
Free hand stroke. Barber stands on right side of chair. Gently turn patron's face to the left. With second finger of left hand, remove lather from hairline. Hold razor as for a free hand stroke. Use long gliding diagonal strokes with the point of the razor in the lead. Beginning at hairline on right side, shave downward towards the jaw bone.

SHAVING AREA No. 2

Back hand stroke. Remaining in the same position, wipe razor clean on lather paper. Hold the razor as for a back hand stroke; use a diagonal stroke with the point of the razor in the lead. Shave all of the beard on the right side of the face.

SHAVING AREA No. 3

Free hand stroke. Keeping the same position, wipe razor clean. Hold razor as for a free hand stroke. Shave underneath the nostril and over the right side of upper lip, using the fingers of the left hand to stretch the underlying skin. When shaving underneath the nostril, slightly lift the tip of the nose without interfering with the breathing. To stretch the upper lip, place fingers of left hand against nose while holding the thumb below the lower corner of the lip.



SHAVING AREA No. 4

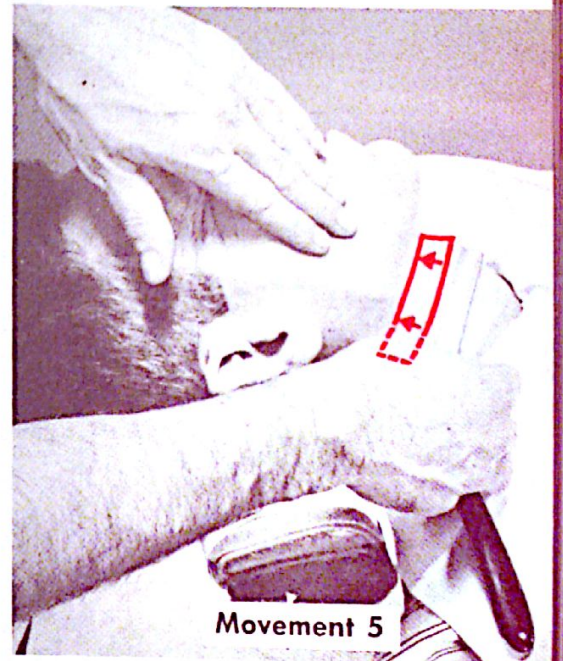
Free hand stroke. Without wiping the razor, start at point of chin and shave all that portion below the jaw bone down to the change in the grain of the beard. While shaving, hold the skin tightly between thumb and fingers of left hand.



Movement 4

SHAVING AREA No. 5

Reverse free hand stroke. Step to back of chair. Hold the razor as for a reverse free hand stroke. Shave the remainder of the beard upward with the grain. This movement completes shaving the right side of the face.



Movement 5

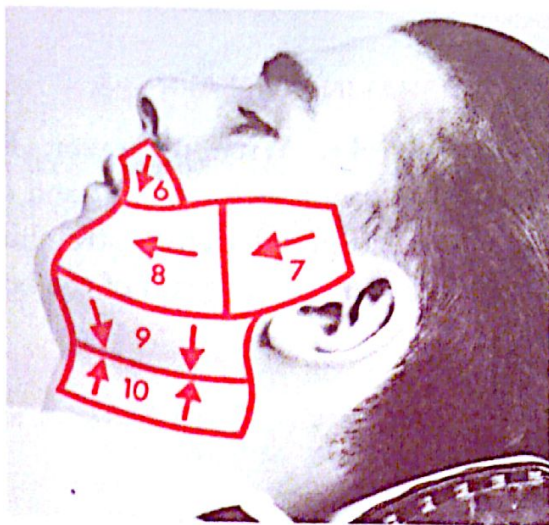


Diagram of shaving areas for left side of face.

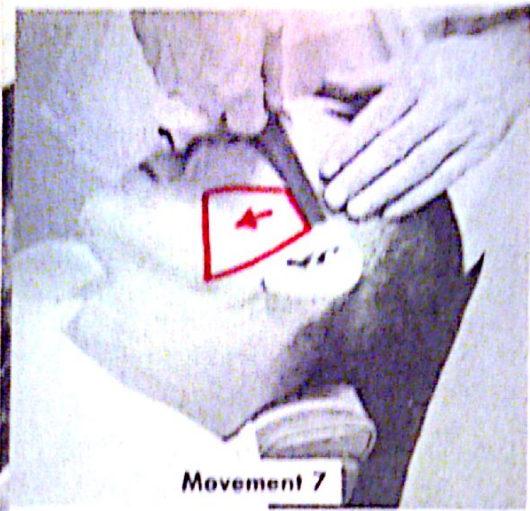
SHAVING AREA No. 6

Back hand stroke. Wipe razor clean and strop it. Stand on right side of patron and turn patron's face upward so that you can shave the left upper lip. Hold razor as for a back hand stroke. While gently pushing the tip of the nose to the right with thumb and fingers of left hand, shave the left side of upper lip.

Note: Some barbers prefer to shave the upper lip after Step 8.



Movement 6

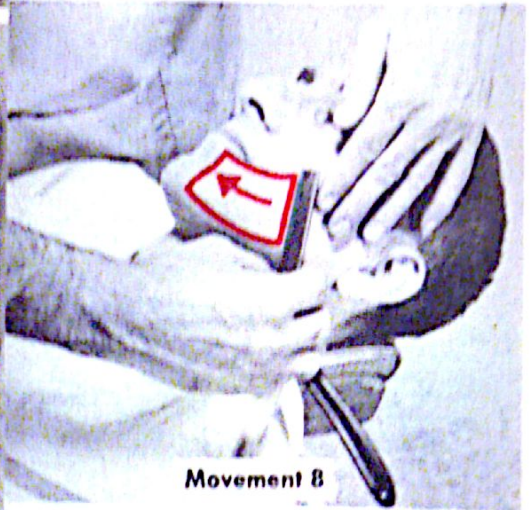


Movement 7

SHAVING AREA No. 7

Back hand stroke. Stand slightly back of patron. Gently turn his face to the right. Re-lather left side of face. Clean lather from hairline. Stretching the skin with the fingers of the left hand, shave downward to the lower part of the ear and slightly forward on the face.

CAUTION. Be careful to stretch the skin well with the left hand as the razor may dig in along the ear.

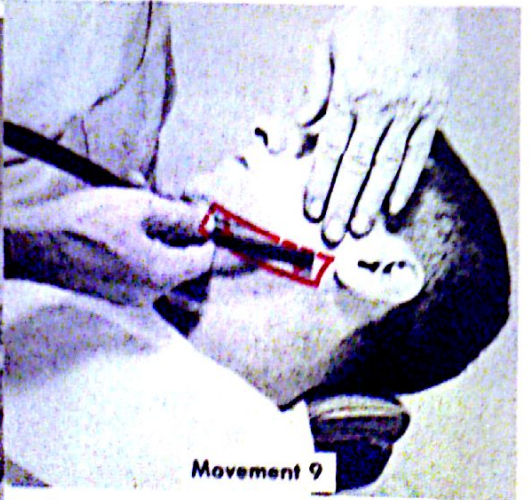


Movement 8

SHAVING AREA No. 8

Free hand stroke. Wipe off razor. Step to right side of patron. Hold razor as for free hand stroke. Shave downward on left side of face towards jaw bone and point of chin.

Note: Some barbers prefer to shave the upper lip (see Step 6) at this time.



Movement 9

SHAVING AREA No. 9

Back hand stroke. Wipe off razor. Keeping the same position, hold razor as for back hand stroke. With the fingers of the left hand tightly stretching the skin, shave downward to where the grain of the beard changes on the neck.



Movement 10

SHAVING AREA No. 10

Reverse free hand stroke. Wipe off razor. Stand slightly back of patron. Hold razor as for reverse free hand stroke. Stretching the skin tightly with the left hand, shave the left side of the neck in an upward direction.

SHAVING AREA No. 11

Free hand stroke. Take your position at the side of the patron and turn his head so the face is pointing upward. Hold razor as for free hand stroke, shave across upper part of the chin. Continue shaving across the chin until it has been shaved to a point below the jaw bone. The skin is stretched with the left hand.



SHAVING AREA No. 12

Free hand stroke. Stretch the skin with the left hand and shave the area just below the chin until the change in the grain of the beard is reached.



SHAVING AREA No. 13

Reverse free hand stroke. Change position to back of chair. Hold the razor as for reverse free hand stroke. Stretch the skin tightly and shave upward on the lower part of the neck.

CAUTION: Great care must be taken that the skin over the Adam's Apple is not cut.



SHAVING AREA No. 14

Reverse free hand stroke. Remain back of chair. Shave upward on lower lip with a few short reverse free hand strokes.

Wipe off razor again, and in so doing, fold the lather paper in half.

During Steps 13 and 14 the barber should avoid breathing into the patron's face as this is annoying and unhealthy to the patron.



SECOND TIME OVER

The second time over is for the purpose of removing any rough or unshaven spots.

Remove all traces of lather with steam towel. Turn towel over and place it on the face.

Strop and sanitize the razor and place it on the work bench. Remove steam towel, pick up water bottle, and sprinkle a little water in the cupped palm of the left hand. Moisten the bearded part of the face, place bottle on work stand, and proceed with the second time over. Use the free hand and reverse free hand strokes in shaving the second time over.

Stand a little in back of patron. With a free hand stroke (see illustration), start to shave right side of face. Stroking the grain of the beard sideways, shave the upper lip and work downward to the lower jaw bone. Shave lower part of neck with a reverse free hand stroke and follow the grain of the beard.

Now turn the patron's face towards you. With a free hand stroke, start to shave left side of face. Stroking the grain of the beard sideways, shave from ear towards tip of nose. When finished, wipe off razor on lather paper and discard it into container.

"ONCE-OVER" SHAVE

If the patron requests a "once-over" shave, the barber should be able to comply with his wishes. The "once-over" shave has the advantage that it takes less time to give a complete and even shave. For a "once-over" shave, give a few more strokes across the grain when each shaving movement is completed. This will assure a complete and even shave with a single lathering.

CLOSE SHAVING

Close shaving is the practice of shaving the beard against the grain of the hair during the second time over. This shaving practice is undesirable because it irritates the skin and may cause an infection or ingrown hairs. For this reason, the barber should be cautious when giving a close shave.

ACCIDENTAL CUTS IN SHAVING

Consult Special Problems page of this chapter.

Exercise No. 10

FINAL STEPS IN FACE SHAVING

The final steps in face shaving require attention to a number of important details.

1. Apply face cream with massage movements.
2. Prepare steam towel and apply it over face.
(Suggest facial treatment at this time.)
3. Remove steam towel from face.
4. Apply finishing lotion with several facial manipulations.
5. Pick up towel from patron's chest.
6. Take your position behind the barber chair.
7. Spread towel over patron's face and first dry the lower part and then the upper part of the face.
8. Take your position on the right side of the chair.
9. Wrap towel around hand as described in Exercise No. 11.



Drying patron's face.

10. Thoroughly dry the face.
11. Select a dry spot of towel and fold it around the hand.
12. Sprinkle talcum powder over dry towel.
13. Apply powder evenly to face.
14. Raise barber chair to an upright position.
15. Shave the neckline, if necessary, as described in Exercise No. 12.
16. Comb the hair neatly, as desired.
17. With neck towel, wipe off loose hair, lather or powder from face and clothing.
18. Remove linen.
19. Hand patron his check for services rendered, and courteously thank him.

Mustache trimming must be done before applying steam towel (Step 2) or after Step 17.

Exercise No. 11

WRAPPING A TOWEL AROUND THE HAND

A properly trained barber knows how to wrap a towel around the hand with ease and skill for the purpose of:

1. Cleansing and drying the face.
2. Applying powder to the face.
3. Removing all traces of powder, lather and any loose hair from face, neck and forehead.

The student should practice the following exercises until he is able to wrap the towel around the hand with ease and skill.

Method No. 1



Fig. 1.

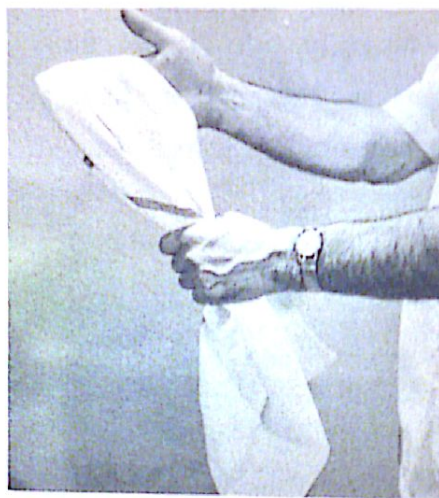


Fig. 2.

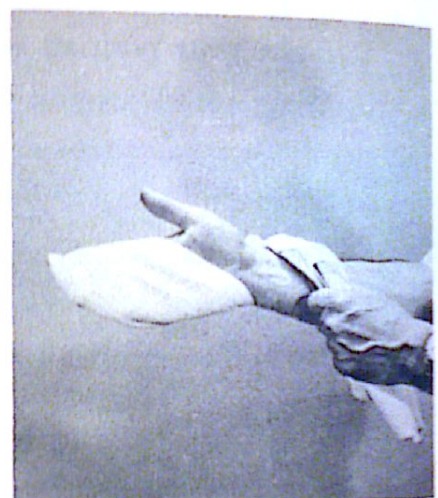
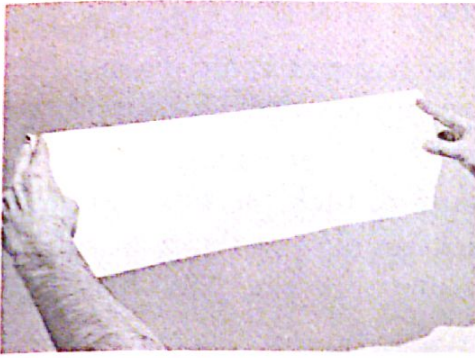


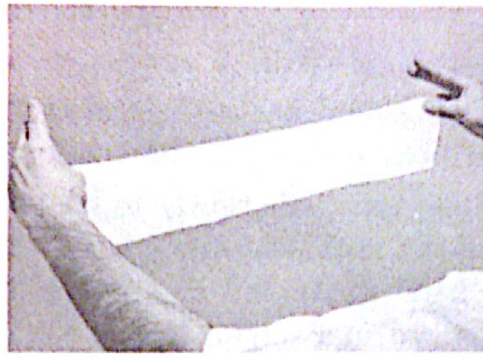
Fig. 3.

1. Hold the towel the long way and grasp towel as in Fig. 1.
2. Hold the right hand in front of you, draw the upper edge of the towel across the palm of the right hand.
3. Then grasp the towel and draw it towards the right arm as in Fig. 2.
4. Holding the towel in this position, twist it around the outside of wrist and hold ends of towel to keep them from flapping in the patron's face, as in Fig. 3.

Method No. 2



Fold in half.



Fold again in half.

Fold Linen Towel or Paper Towel

Use linen or paper towel, usually 16 x 24 inches. First, fold the towel in half lengthwise and then fold it again in half lengthwise, as shown in the above illustration.

Wrap Towel Around Hand

1. Grasp the towel between the index and middle finger. (Fig. 1.)
2. Bring the towel around to cover the palm. (Fig. 2.)



Fig. 1.

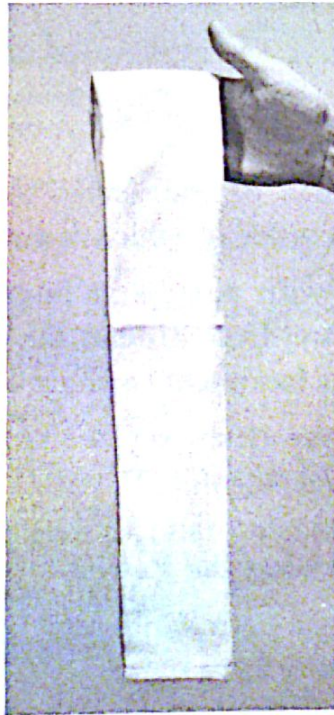


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

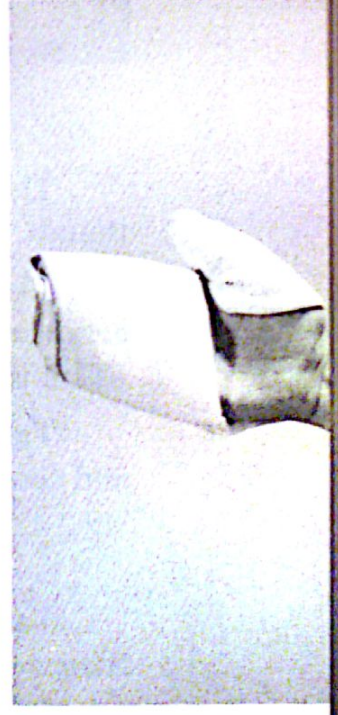


Fig. 4.

3. Bring the towel around the back of the hand and twist forward around the thumb. (Figs. 3 and 4.)
4. The towel is folded neatly and therefore the end will not flap in the patron's face.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Your instructor may have other ways to wrap the towel around the hand, which are equally correct.

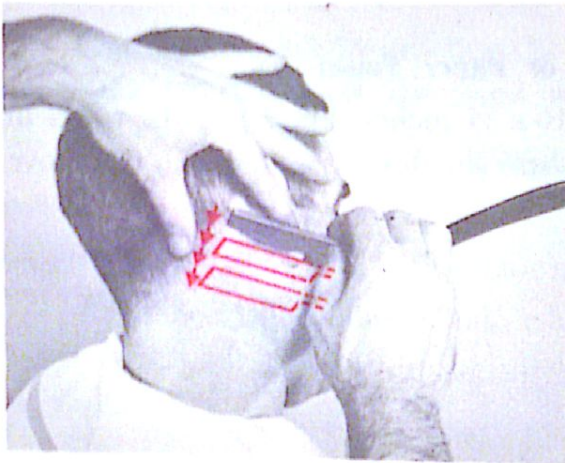


Exercise No. 12

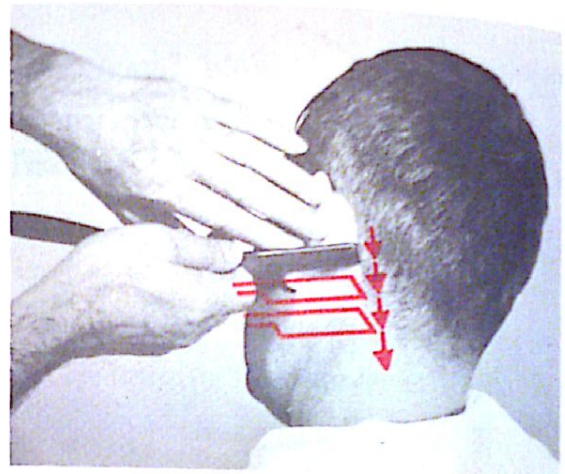
NECK SHAVE

The neck shave, as part of the regular shave, involves shaving the neckline on both sides of the neck below the ears.

Raise the chair slowly to an upright position, tuck the towel around the back of the neck, and apply lather. Shave neckline, first at the right side using a free hand stroke and then at the left side using a reverse back hand stroke, as described in Exercise No. 4.



Shaving right side of neck
using free hand stroke.



Shaving left side of neck.

The lather from the razor may be transferred to the palm or base of left thumb, or to a strip of tissue, a corner of which is tucked under the towel.

Clean shaved part of neck with palm and fingers moistened with witch hazel or warm water. Remove towel from around the neck and dry thoroughly. (This is the time to suggest scalp treatment, or hair tonic.)

Take your position behind the chair, replace towel around patron's neck and comb the hair as desired by the patron.

Releasing the Patron

Take towel from the back of neck, and fold it around the right hand. Remove all traces of powder and any loose hair.

Discard towel and remove chair cloth from patron.

Make out price check and thank patron as it is handed to him.

POINTS TO REMEMBER IN SHAVING



1. Always use a forward sawing movement with point of blade leading.
2. The experienced barber will observe the hair slope and shave with it—never against it.
3. A heavy growth of beard and resistant hair requires care in the lathering process and special technique in the use of the razor.
4. The lather should not be scattered carelessly all over the face.
5. The fingers of the left hand should be kept dry in order to grasp and stretch the skin and hold it firmly.
6. Hot towels should not be used on excessively sensitive skin, nor should they be used when the skin is chapped or blistered from cold or heat.
7. Take precaution in shaving especially: beneath lower lip, lower part of neck, and around the Adam's apple, as these parts of the face and neck are usually the most tender and sensitive, and are easily irritated by very close shaving.

ELEVEN REASONS WHY A PATRON MAY FIND FAULT WITH A SHAVE

1. Offensive body odor, foul breath or tobacco odor.
2. Dull or rough razors.
3. Unclean hands, towels and shaving cloth.
4. Cold fingers.
5. Heavy touch of hand.
6. Poorly-heated towels.
7. Lather which is either too cold or too hot.
8. Sticking your fingers in patron's mouth.
9. Glaring lights over head.
10. Unshaven hair patches.
11. Scraping the skin and close shaving.

SPECIAL PROBLEMS

TREATING SMALL CUTS



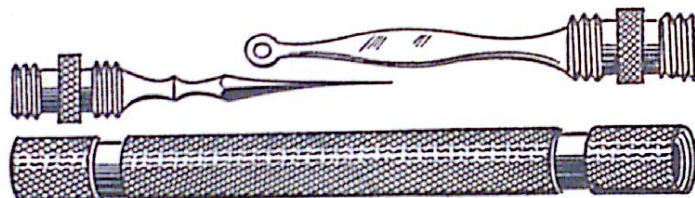
Whenever a slight cut or scratch drawing blood has occurred, pat the area dry with sterile cotton and apply styptic powder sparingly to the cut. After the powder has dried, dust off the area with sterile cotton or towel.

Never use a styptic pencil or any other astringent that will come in contact with more than one face, as there is great danger of infection.

BLACKHEADS OR COMEDONES

Blackheads, which make their appearance on the face and more particularly around the nose, may be removed by means of a blackhead extractor, and by steaming.

It is not well to attempt to remove all the blackheads appearing on the



Blackhead (comedone) extractor

surface at one time; they should be removed by a series of treatments extending over a period of time.

Facial massage and facial steaming help to dislodge and remove a number of blackheads. The comedone extractor may be used. Place the round end of extractor with the hole over the blackhead and press gently until it comes out.

INGROWN OR WILD HAIR

An ingrown hair is one that has grown beneath the skin, causing a lump in which pus forms. This is usually caused by very close shaving or the rubbing of a shirt collar. People with curly hair are more prone to have ingrown hairs.

To remove a wild hair or dead hair, open the affected part with a sanitized needle, pull out the hair with a sanitized tweezer, then apply an antiseptic solution.



Tweezer with needle.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



SHAVING

1. **What three points should the barber know about the patron's skin and hair when shaving?**
 1. Condition and sensitivity of skin.
 2. Texture of hair.
 3. Slope and grain of beard.
2. **What are nine requirements of a good shave?**
 1. Hands, razor and towels should be properly sanitized.
 2. Razor properly honed and stropped.
 3. Beard well-lathered.
 4. Towels properly heated and applied.
 5. Beard cut smoothly.
 6. Lather completely removed.
 7. Astringent or face lotion properly applied.
 8. Face dried thoroughly.
 9. Powder evenly applied.
3. **How should the patron be prepared for shaving?**
 1. Arrange chair cloth.
 2. Change headrest paper and adjust headrest to proper level.
 3. Recline chair to comfortable position.
 4. Barber washes hands.
 5. Tuck in towel.
4. **How should the beard be prepared for shaving?**

Apply lather to face; apply steam towel over lather; remove lather with steam towel; re-lather beard.
5. **Which five sanitary precautions should be observed by the barber?**
 1. Use clean hands.
 2. Use sanitized razor.
 3. Use sanitary receptacle for shaving soap.
 4. Use sanitary tissue to wipe lather from razor.
 5. Use clean linen.
6. **What is the most effective way to rub lather into the beard?**

To rub lather into the beard use the cushion parts of fingertips with a circular movement.
7. **What action does the lather have on the beard?**

The lather softens the hair and lubricates the skin and beard.
8. **What is the purpose of steaming the face?**

The heat softens the outer layer of the hair and stimulates the flow of oil from the skin glands. The added lubrication helps the razor to glide over the face.
9. **When should a hot towel not be applied to the face?**

If the face is very sensitive, irritated, chapped or blistered.
10. **Name the four standard positions and strokes used in shaving.**

Free hand; back hand; reverse free hand; reverse back hand.
11. **How should the razor be used to accomplish the free hand stroke?**

Hold the razor in a free hand position. Use a gliding stroke towards the point of the razor in a forward sawing movement.
12. **How should the razor be used to accomplish the back hand stroke?**

Hold the razor in a back hand position and stroke it in a forward sawing movement away from you towards the point of the razor.
13. **How should the razor be used to accomplish the reverse free hand stroke?**

The razor is held similarly to the free hand position. The stroke is performed with a slight rotation of the wrist, forming a small upward arc.
14. **What should be the direction of the shaving strokes in respect to the grain of the hair?**

The shaving strokes are made with the grain of the hair.

15. When is the reverse back hand position and stroke usually used?

As the patron sits in an upright position, the barber evens the sideburn at left temple and outlines the haircut on the left side of the neck below the ear.

16. How many shaving areas are there in shaving the first time over?

14 shaving areas.

17. Which side of the face is shaved first and which stroke is used first?

The right side is shaved first. The free hand stroke is the first stroke.

18. How is a "once-over" shave given?

When performing each of the fourteen steps in shaving, a few more strokes across the grain may be taken, thereby assuring a complete and even shave with a single lathering.

19. What part of the neck is shaved with the standard or regular shave?

The sides of the neck below the ears.

20. What are the final steps after shaving?

Comb the hair neatly, wipe off excess powder and any loose hair.

21. When should a facial be suggested to the patron?

As the last steam towel is being removed.

22. When should a hair tonic or scalp treatment be suggested to the customer?

Just before combing the hair.

23. Give eleven reasons why a patron may find fault with a shave.

1. Offensive body odor, foul

breath or tobacco odor.

2. Dull or rough razors.

3. Unclean hands, towels and chair cloth.

4. Cold fingers.

5. Heavy touch of hand.

6. Poorly-heated towels.

7. Lather which is either too cold or too hot.

8. Sticking your fingers in patron's mouth.

9. Glaring lights over head.

10. Unshaven hair patches.

11. Scraping the skin and close shaving.

24. What is an ingrown hair?

An ingrown hair is one which has grown beneath the skin and may cause an infection to develop.

25. What is the cause of an ingrown hair?

Usually caused by very close shaving and the wearing of shirt collars which rub against the neck.

26. What is the proper treatment for an ingrown hair?

To remove an ingrown hair, open the infected part with a sanitized needle and then pull out the hair with the sanitized tweezers. Finally, apply an antiseptic such as peroxide or tincture of iodine.

27. How is a close shave produced?

Shaving the beard against the grain of the hair during the second time over.

28. Why is a close shave undesirable?

A close shave may irritate the skin and may cause ingrown hairs or infection.